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PATENT
(5181-91401/P6357)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/872,360
Filed: May 31, 2001
Inventor(s):
Kan, et al.

§ Examiner: Choules, Jack M.
§ Group/Art Unit: 2177
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5181-91401
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Title: **DISTRIBUTED
INFORMATION
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Robert C. Kowert

Name of Registered Representative

[Handwritten Signature]

November 8, 2004

Signature

Date

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please incorporate the document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 into the electronic Information Disclosure statement previously filed.

Applicant requests consideration of ☒ the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or ☐ the additional information identified below in paragraph 3.

- ☒ A copy of each required reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed.
- ☐ The references listed on the Form PTO-1449 were previously cited in application serial no. _____ to which the captioned application is seeking priority under 35 U.S.C. §120; therefore, a copy of each reference is not enclosed.
- ☐ The present application is a U.S. national patent application filed after June 30, 2003, or an international application that entered the national stage under 35 USC § 371 after June 30, 2003. Therefore, copies of the cited U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent application publications are not enclosed.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:
 - a. ☐ within 3 months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
☐ within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an International application;
☐ before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or
☒ before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.
 - b. ☐ after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus: ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or ☐ a fee of \$180.00 (submitted with electronic IDS).
 - c. ☐ after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus: the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.
2. It is hereby certified:
 - ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;
 - ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of the Statement; or
 - ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56 (c) more than three (3) months prior to the filing of the Statement.
3. ☐ Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. applications, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:
 - ☐ reference is made to an English language translation submitted herewith, and/or
 - ☐ reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or
 - ☐ reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or

- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s) _____, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:
5. ☐ Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:
6. ☐ Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.
7. ☐ The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.
8. ☐ Applicant(s) requests that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned application.

If any required fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5181-91401/RCK.

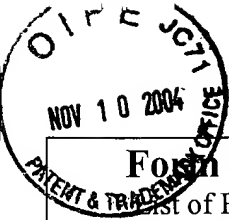
Respectfully submitted,



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Date: November 8, 2004



Form PTO-1449 (modified) U.S. Department of Patents and Publications For Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DKT. NO. 5181-91401 APPLICANT: Kan, et al. FILING DATE: May 31, 2001	SERIAL NO. 09/872,360 GROUP: 2177
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	D1	5,920,856	7/6/99	Syeda-Mahmood			
	D2	5,920,854	7/6/99	Kirsch, et al.			
	D3	6,102,969	8/15/00	Christianson, et al.			
	D4	6,574,655	6/3/03	Libert, et al.			
	D5	5,446,880	8/29/95	Balgeman, et al.			
	D6	6,212,545	4/3/01	Ohtani, et al.			
	D7	5,659,732	8/19/97	Kirsch			
	D18	5,577,241	11/19/96	Spencer			
	D19	5,826,261	10/20/98	Spencer			

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	D8	C. Yu, et al., "Efficient and Effective Metasearch for a Large Number of Text Databases," Tech. report, U. of Illinois at Chicago, 1999, http://citeseer.ist.psu.edu/yu99efficient.html , 2 pages.
	D9	W. Meng, et al., "Estimating the Usefulness of Search Engines," 15th International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE'99), Sydney, Australia, March 1999, 2 pages.
	D10	Mic Bowman, et al. "Harvest: A scalable, customizable discovery and access system", Technical report, University of Colorado-Boulder, 1995, 3 pages.
	D11	Oates, T.; et al., "Parallel and distributed search for structure in multivariate time series," Technical Report 96-23, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Computer Science Department, Long version, 1996, 2 pages.
	D12	T. Oates, et al., "Networked Information Retrieval as Distributed Problem Solving, " In Proceedings of CIKM Workshop on Intelligent Information Agents held in conjunction with the Third International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM'94), December 1994, 2 pages.
	D13	Walter L. Warnick, PhD, et al., "Searching the Deep Web," D-Lib Magazine, January 2001, Volume 7, Number 1, 11 pages.
	D14	Julio C. Navas, et al., "Jambalaya: Using Multicast for Blind Distributed Web Searching and Advertising," 1998, 1 page.
	D15	Fidel Cacheda, et al., "Improving the Information Retrieval in the World Wide Web (2000)," 1 page.
	D16	L. Warshaw, et al., "Rule-based query optimization, revisited," Proceedings of the 9th Conference on Information and Knowledge Management. Kansas City, Kansas, November, 1999, pp. 267-275.
	D17	James P. Callan, et al. "Searching distributed collections with inference networks," In Proceedings of the 18th Annual SIGIR Conference, 1995, 2 pages.

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the patent owner.

Information Disclosure Statement--PTO 1449 (modified)